

SJUNews *FLASH*

A weekly email to share important information
and to alert you to upcoming events.

Article submission deadline: Thursdays at NOON

www.sjuned.org

[SJU Facebook](#)

[SJU YouTube](#)

SJUColumbia@gmail.com

(best way to contact the office)

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 AM **LIVESTREAM FROM THE INTERFAITH CENTER**

Use this same link for EVERY SJU worship service!

[SJU Worship Service Livestream](#)

This worship service link is also posted on both our website and our Facebook page.

[SJU Website](#)

[SJU Facebook](#)

Our service also streams live on our Youtube page, beginning at 10:30 am.

[SJU YouTube](#)

We invite all persons back into worship on Sunday mornings at our 10:30 a.m. service in Room 4 of the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center. We hope you have been able to receive all COVID vaccinations and boosters.

SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP – 7:00 PM – VIA ZOOM

Meeting ID: 835 8748 4349

Password: 940379

Join **online**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83587484349?pwd=MmhCampLL0tnMWhOc1hEWtBwQ29BQT09>

Or by **phone**: +1 301 715 8592 US

DIRECTED DONATIONS

At this time, the Finance/Investment team asks that you please do not designate or direct your contributions to SJU toward a specific ministry unless asked. When SJU is aware that specialized ministries need funding, that need will be publicized in advance, and solicited for a specific time and use. The elected leaders of the Church Council are in continual discernment to guide all of SJU's human, financial and spiritual resources in responsible and impactful ways, for the transformation of the world.

**Weekly deadline for submitting SJUNews *FLASH* articles
is Thursday by 12 NOON.**

**Send via email to SJUColumbia@gmail.com
Please include "FOR THE FLASH" in your subject heading.**

SAVING GRACE SMALL GROUP

from Pastor Mary Ka

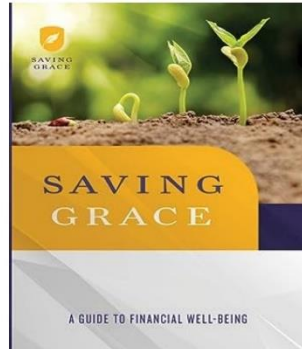
You are invited to be part of a group for adults who want to achieve their goals for financial health and well-being. The flyer describes the resource and the format.

I hope you will consider being part of this opportunity to be equipped with essential skills for the complex life challenges most people are facing today! Feel free to share with anyone else you think might be interested!

It's not too late to join us.

The first meeting, which will be in person, is scheduled for September 17th. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Deep joy to you, *Mary Ka*



We live in challenging times.

We want an abundant life, but need practical tools and skills to manage our money. This guide is a faith-based approach to achieving grace, peace and contentment in relationship to God and to money.

Saving Grace is a 6-week experience created to help you get a grasp of your finances and develop a successful Spending Plan that achieves your life goals and reflects gratitude to God, the source of all abundance!

2023 Small Group Study Saving Grace: A Guide to Financial Well-Being By Abingdon Press

Week of (exact dates to be determined:)

Sept 17th	First Class in Person (12 noon 9/17, IFC)
Sept 24th	Group online
Oct 1st	Group online
Oct 8th	Group online
Oct 15th	Group online
Oct 22nd	Group online
Oct 29th	Celebration in person

How to Participate:

OBTAIN the *participant workbook*. Order your own copy through Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Christian Book Distributors, or download onto your e-reader, etc.

Sample Books will be available in room 10/11 during hospitality time after worship on September 10th.

To register, contact Pastor Mary Ka Kananah at:
pastorkanahansju@gmail.com or

Call her at 410-730-9137

First in-person class is September 17th, 12 noon, Admin Ofc Meeting Room

Topics Covered Include: Getting Started: Tracking Income and Expenses, Giving and Saving, Understanding and Eliminating Debt, Spending, and Adjusting the Spending Plan

Also includes: Fillable worksheets and access to resources online for calculating net worth, setting budgets, creating a spending plan!

Also includes a facilitator for the group. Each individual or couple prepares their own worksheets for their own use. Principles for financial well-being are discussed. **Personal finances are not shared.**

PRAYER MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE

This Week in Your Prayers (your prayers are felt and make a difference!):

- Please pray for Dr. **Tammy Watts**, sister of **Trena Perez**, who grew up at SJU. She experienced a medical emergency while on travel with Trena, Tony and friends in Europe and underwent surgery. Tammy's full recovery, which may take some time, may require her to remain overseas for a while. Trena is very grateful for the church and its prayers for her family. Your prayers for a successful outcome that remedies Tammy's condition and sets her on a road to full recovery are requested. At this time, no additional support is needed for the Perez-Powell family.
- Please pray for healing: Judy Douds reports today that **Dave Douds** has been exposed to COVID and is quarantined in his rehab room until the end of the week. He'll have meals and therapy for his broken arm in his room. He will benefit from your emails, text messages, phone calls of encouragement! 443-326-1904.
- Please pray for **Izetta Cooper** who had a fall and was hospitalized. She is recuperating at home.
- **Pamela Love** requests prayers for her **brother Brad Gibson**, living with a serious chronic health condition. Please pray for the stabilization of his health and the effectiveness of treatments he is receiving.
- Our hearts and voices continue to join in prayer for the **people of the Ukraine** and all who are experiencing fear and violence as a result of a conflict with Russia, and all around the world who are **affected by recent natural disasters**.

- Pray for our **church worldwide, pray for SJU and its leaders and members**, pray for one another, our neighbors, and for yourself and often. Pray for what burdens your heart and mind for the world, our nation and our neighborhood.



NEEDLEWORK GROUP

Do you knit, crochet, embroider, or enjoy any other needle craft? **Come join the SJU Needlework Group on September 10th**, after worship, at one of the cafe tables. Bring a snack and your current project. Beginners and needlework-curious folks welcome! ~ *Thanks! Ingrid*

DENOMINATION NEWS

Baltimore/Washington Conference

- In the wake of Hurricane Idalia, the **United Methodist Committee on Relief** is providing disaster assistance in Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas. [Contribute to the recovery efforts.](#)
- **The Gender, Race, and Ministry study** is a two-year effort by the BWC's Board of Ordained Ministry to explore how one's race and gender impact one's experience of ministry. The final report offers a window into ministry experiences in our conference as well as key recommendations for strengthening our collective capacity to flourish in ministry. BOOM invites all members of the annual conference to learn more about the study and its findings through an online presentation, which will include time for questions and discussion. Join the conversation on **Oct. 5 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for a webinar presentation of the report findings.** [Register now.](#)
- [Read current and back issues of the e-Connection](#) to learn what's happening across the Baltimore-Washington Conference or [subscribe](#) to the weekly e-newsletter

Presbytery of Baltimore

- [Saturday September 16, 2023](#) – 900th Meeting of Presbytery! – In-person at Mt. Paran Presbyterian, 10 am – 2 pm
- **Saturday, September 23 - Women of the Bible**, Hosted by **Knox Presbyterian Church** @ 2 pm. There is no charge to attend. [Download flyer](#) or contact Karen Garrett for more information: 443 226 5587.

HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM PRESENTS:

The Longest Table is back at Howard Community College on **September 30** and there's a place at our table for you. Don't miss the chance to meet new people, share a meal, and enjoy powerful and engaging conversations about our community. Everyone is welcome! Click here for [Longest Table Tickets](#)



Sunday hours: All HCLS branches are now open on Sundays from 1 to 5 pm.

NEWS FROM HOWARD COUNTY



If you are a Maryland taxpayer who maintains Maryland residency for the 2023 tax year and incurred at least \$20,000 in undergraduate and/or graduate student loan debt, and have at least \$5,000 in outstanding student loan debt at the time of applying for the tax credit, **you may be eligible for student loan debt relief from the Maryland Higher Education Commission.** Applications are being accepted **now through next Friday, September 15th**, so to learn more about this tax credit, eligibility requirements and how to apply, visit <https://tinyurl.com/SL-TaxCredit>. For questions about this tax credit, email studentdebttaxcredit.mhec@maryland.gov.

Are You Prepared? Since 2004, September has been designated as National Preparedness Month and the perfect time to ensure that everyone is informed, has an emergency plan, builds a kit and gets involved. This year's theme focuses on enhancing readiness for the pillars of our community—older adults. Are you and your senior loved ones ready to face emergencies head-on? Our dedicated Office of Emergency Management will be sharing valuable preparedness insights all month and holding various informative events. I encourage you to follow them on social media ([Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#)) to stay informed on upcoming events and how you can stay prepared.

NEWS FROM HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING AND INDEPENDENCE

Get your Medicare card laminated: Medicare Open Enrollment starts October 15 and Howard County's [State Health Insurance Assistance Program](#) (SHIP) is here to help you prepare. This month, SHIP staff will be on site to laminate your Medicare card and two additional cards, at no charge (same size cards - Social Security cards cannot be laminated). Free; no registration required.

- **Bain 50+ Center:** September 13, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **East Columbia 50+ Center:** September 19, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (with Maryland Insurance Administration)
- **Elkridge 50+ Center:** September 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (with Maryland Insurance Administration)
- **Glenwood 50+ Center:** September 21, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (with Maryland Insurance Administration)
- **North Laurel 50+ Center:** September 22, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Ellicott City 50+ Center:** September 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

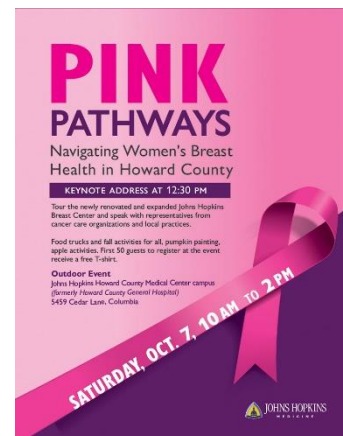
ONGOING SJU NEWS / LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

Sept. 16 (11am)—Health Fair and Blood Drive

Host site: Glen Mar UMC, 4701 New Cut Road, Ellicott City

Visit booths that will share health education information, conduct preventive screenings, raise awareness of health risks, and demonstrate healthy habits. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, send them to healthfair@glenmarumc.org. View the [event flyer](#).

Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center has some exciting events coming up. First, we have our annual **Latino Health Fair September 30th** and new event called **Pink Pathways event on October 7th**. Both events are free to the community. Both events focus on health screenings, education, and community resources.



Columbia Community Care

SPECIAL NOTE: Thanks to your generosity and the generosity of residents of Howard County the total number and selection of many non-perishable items has exceeded all expectations especially in areas such as canned goods.

For more information (updated on 5/8/23), go here: <https://sjunited.org/new-to-sju/>

YOUR CONTINUED GIVING IS APPRECIATED!

Please continue helping us meet our need so that all of our ministries and missions can continue and be prepared for the fullness of service in the coming months. Here's how you can help:

Donate through GIVELIFY.

With Givelify, you have two options:

1. Download the GIVELIFY app (iphone or android), search for us by name (Saint John United Church) or phone number (410-730-9137), and follow the steps, or
2. Donate online through this link: [Donate Today](#) and search for us as explained above.



Donate by mail. Yvonne checks the mail for contributions, and makes weekly deposits.

Make your check payable to **ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH**, and mail it (with or without including your contribution envelope) to:

St John United Church, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd, Columbia MD 21044

Donate through your bank or credit union. Set up St. John United Church as you would any other bill through your bank's bill payment option.

HEY! IT'S 2023!
(DAD JOKE ALERT)



CALENDAR: SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10 – SEPTEMBER 17

All meetings are via Zoom unless otherwise noted:

links to any open meetings are in this issue

All meetings are open to the members and affiliates of SJU unless otherwise noted. Members are encouraged to connect, be engaged and invested in the life and leadership of this Body of Christ, the church! Contact SJUColumbia@gmail.com if you wish to receive meeting and contact information on anything below:

Sun, 9/10	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Liturgist: Edna Quoie)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP
Mon, 9/11	3:00 pm	COMMUNICATIONS TEAM: MISSIO MONTHLY MEETING
	4:00 pm	FINANCE TEAM
Tue, 9/12	7:00 pm	COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY TEAM
Thu, 9/14	6:00 pm	A/V TECH TEAM & CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (<i>Room 4</i>)
Sun, 9/17	10:30 am	WORSHIP SERVICE (<i>in-person & streaming</i>) (Scheduled liturgist: Kaylee Wong)
	12 noon	SAVING GRACE SMALL GROUP MEETING (<i>admin ofc mtg rm</i>)
	7:00 pm	SUNDAYS AT SEVEN (PM!) FELLOWSHIP

Prayer Group Ministry: Anyone in the church may submit a prayer concern to a group prayer chain. Contact Judy Miller (quiltjudy@gmail.com), or Evelyn Chesnutt (lchesnutt@icloud.com). If you would like to be part of the Prayer Group Ministry, also contact Judy or Evelyn and let them know so they can add you to the distribution.

Pastoral Care: Self-Care in the Pandemic: Pastoral Care, Coaching and Spiritual Direction for Individuals or Households. Rev. Kanahan, a trained IFC Coach and Spiritual Director, is here to offer Pastoral Care, Coaching and Spiritual direction during this time. Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-11 am or 6-8 pm. All 50-minute appointments and interactions are confidential and customized for your needs. She is willing to listen, encourage, pray or offer resources according to your request. Schedule your self-care consult by contacting her at: pastorkanahansju@gmail.com or 410-428-8090.

ADMIN OFFICE AND PASTORAL OFFICE HOURS: Yvonne is in the office for a few hours once a week, normally on Thursdays, and Pastor Mary Ka is in as needed each week. Because it might be several days before they can retrieve phone messages, please send them an email with any questions you have, for help you may need, or to make an in-office appointment.

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